

CHICAGO REGIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013
Madden Mental Health Center
1200 S. 1st Ave., Hines, IL

Nicole opened the meeting of the Chicago Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) at 5:06 p.m. The meeting was held at Madden Mental Health Center, Hines, IL.

Members Present: Kamil Jaruga, Ashley Casati, LaVonne McClairen, Edie Bukwa, and Nicole Erickson.

Members Absent: Beth Tucker, David Ginter, and Donna Claffy.

Staff Present: Pat Betzen

Guests: Matt Burke, 1st Assistant General Counsel, Cook County Sheriff's Office

Nicole noted that a quorum was present. Nicole read the Confidentiality statement.

Approval of June 4, 2013 Meeting Minutes: Edie made a motion to approve the minutes with no revisions; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

Communications: Matt Burke, Assistant General Counsel for the Cook County Sheriff's Office, was present to deliver his Response to the Report of Findings pursuant to case #12-030-9018. The Report of Findings was issued after the HRA voted to accept it at the April 23, 2013 meeting of the HRA. At the June 4, 2013 meeting of the HRA the Response to the Report was due and the CCDOC requested a postponement, which was granted. When contacted for the facility Response for the July 16, 2013 HRA meeting, Mr. Burke requested a revision of the HRA Report of Findings that was voted on and accepted at the April meeting. Mr. Burke's primary objection to the HRA report is that it contains broad generalizations which he believes are inaccurate. He has been in discussion with the HRA Coordinator for a month in an effort to effect changes to the report to reflect these inaccuracies, however he was reminded that the report was accepted by a vote of the HRA. He was again reminded at this meeting that the report stands as issued and that he may include any objections, corrections, or inadequacies in his Response to the Report and this information will be attached to the Report when it is made public.

Pat Betzen announced a training meeting to be held for the northern Illinois HRA's on September 19th at Elgin Mental Health Center. All members are invited to attend. Agenda and further details to follow.

NEW BUSINESS

New Complaints:

14-030-9001. The complaint alleges that a hospital provided inadequate medical evaluation to diagnose and treat a recipient's medical needs, used excessive restraint to subdue the recipient, and did not provide adequate discharge planning. The HRA discussed accepting the complaint regarding the excessive use of restraint, however it was noted that the case involves a criminal case and a release of information for the clinical record may be difficult to obtain. Nicole made a motion to reconsider the case when the trial is over. The motion was properly seconded and carried.

14-030-9002. The complaint alleges that a recipient was involuntarily discharged to a hospital for no reason other than the hospital wanted her to leave the facility. A release of information has been obtained. Edie made a motion to accept the complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded and carried.

14-030-9003. The complaint alleges that a woman was placed in seclusion and administered forced medication in violation of the Mental Health Code. A release of information has been obtained. Kamil made a motion to accept the complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded and carried.

14-030-9004. The complaint alleges that a recipient's mail was opened and copied by staff at the nursing home where she resides. A release of information has not yet been obtained. Edie made a motion to accept the case pending receipt of the release. The motion was properly seconded and carried.

Kamil made a motion to go into closed session at 6:15 p.m. pursuant to Section 3955/21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act to discuss reports and responses and other matters which could not be discussed without revealing confidential information. The motion was properly seconded and carried.

The HRA returned to open session at 6:36 p.m. having taken no action in closed session. A summary of the closed session includes updates on open cases, discussion of reports as well as responses, and case closures.

Recognition of LaVonne McClairen: The HRA recognized the work and commitment of HRA Member, LaVonne McClairen, whose has been a dedicated HRA investigator as well as a wonderful member of the HRA team.

Election of Officers: Edie Bukwa made a motion to elect the following slate of officers: Chair – Nicole Erickson; Vice-Chair – Beth Tucker; Secretary – Kamil Jaruga. The motion was properly seconded and carried. The new officers will take office at the next HRA meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ratifications: None

Reports of Findings:

#13-030-9007 Cedar Point. A motion was made to accept the report without revision and the motion was properly seconded and passed.

#13-030-9009 Chicago Read. A motion was made to accept the report without revision and the motion was properly seconded and passed.

#13-030-9010 Madden. A motion was made to accept the report without revision and the motion was properly seconded and passed.

Case Closures:

#12-030-9018 Cermak. LaVonne made a motion to close the case and make the report part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded and passed.

#13-030-9003 Weiss. Edie made a motion to close the case and make the report part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded and passed.

#13-030-9006 Swedish Covenant. Kamil made a motion to close the case and make the report part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded and passed.

#13-030-9005 MacNeal. Ashley made a motion to close the case and make the report part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded and passed.

Case Status Reports:

#13-00-9004 Anixter Center. The site visit has been scheduled for 7/23/13.

#13-030-9012 MacNeal. The site visit has been scheduled for 7/25/13.

#13-030-9014 St. Bernard. The site visit has been scheduled for 7/30/13.

Announcements and Comments:

The next meeting of the HRA is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, August 27, 2013 at Madden Mental Health Center.

Adjournment: The HRA agreed to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edith Bukwa